IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE DIVISION CRIMINAL FILE NO. 1:14-cr-80-MR

<u>ORDER</u>
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THIS MATTER is before the Court pursuant to a letter written by the Defendant requesting the appointment of counsel, [Doc. 43], which the Court construes as a motion for appointment of counsel. The Defendant is seeking relief under Johnson v. United States, 135 S. Ct. 2551 (2015).

On November 17, 2015, the judges of this Court issued a Standing Order appointing counsel with the Federal Defenders of Western North Carolina to represent any defendant who was previously determined to have been entitled to appointment of counsel, or who is now indigent, to determine whether such defendant is eligible for relief under <u>Johnson</u>. Standing Order in re: <u>Johnson v. United States</u>, No. 3:15-mc-00196-FDW (W.D.N.C. Nov. 17, 2015). Based upon the entries of record contained in the Defendant's docket sheet, the Defendant was previously determined to be indigent. In addition, Defendant asserts that he may be entitled to relief pursuant to

Johnson. Accordingly, the Defendant falls within the purview of the Court's

Standing Order.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that Defendant's motion for

appointment of counsel [Doc. 43] is **DENIED** as moot, and that no later than

thirty days from the entry of this Order, counsel with the Federal Defenders

of Western North Carolina shall determine whether to file a petition pursuant

to 28 U.S.C. § 2255 on behalf of the Defendant and shall notify the Defendant

of any decision made in that regard. If counsel with the Federal Defenders

of Western North Carolina determines that such a petition should be filed,

any such petition shall be filed no later than sixty days from the entry of this

Order.

The Clerk of Court is respectfully directed to provide a copy of this Order to

the Defendant and to the Federal Defenders of Western North Carolina.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Signed: July 29, 2016

Martin Reidinger

United States District Judge